

June 26, 2019

Honorable Congressman Brian Babin U.S. House of Representatives 2236 Rayburn House Office Building Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Babin:

The Hillsboro Police Department extends support for the TAPS Act of 2019 (H.R. 838). Multidisciplinary threat assessment teams trained to identify and manage threats of violence are a proactive option to a disturbing trend. As stated in your summary video, "When the first shot goes off—it's too late—we have failed." We agree and are encouraged by the TAPS Act that will assist law enforcement agencies in better connecting the dots that may reduce acts of targeted violence.

The Hillsboro Police Department has had a threat assessment team since 2013 and several members are actively involved with the Association of Threat Assessment Professionals. We understand the value that comes with sharing information with partner agencies and the importance of being properly trained to assess threatening behavior. Funding and resources that would allow community organizations to better prepare for and respond to threats of targeted violence are greatly needed.

Please know we are encouraged by the TAPS Act and believe the time is right for this critical initiative. You have the support of the Hillsboro Police Department. If we can assist with the passing or implementation of this important resolution, please do not hesitate to reach out.

Very respectfully

Lee Dobrowolski Chief of Police